

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Natalie Dean on 09/15/08.

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 12-15, 18-42, and 45

Claim 2:

The drug delivery device of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 48, further comprising a first and second syringe pump, wherein the first syringe pump is associated with the first syringe and the second syringe pump is associated with the second syringe, such that the first and second syringe pumps operate each of the first and second syringes independently of each other.

Claim 4:

The drug delivery device of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 2, further comprising a third syringe.

Claim 6:

The drug delivery device of claim 5, further comprising a third ~~fluid~~ reservoir.

Claim 8:

The drug delivery device of claim [[7]] 51, wherein the at least one catheter comprises a catheter connected to the system outlet by a catheter outlet.

Claim 10:

The drug delivery device of claim [[9]] 52, further comprising a waste outlet that is connected to the system outlet and that is contained by the second position of the fourth pinch valve, so that when the first position of the fourth pinch valve is open, the second position of the fourth pinch valve is closed and fluid is allowed to pass between the system outlet and the catheter outlet, and when the second position of the fourth pinch valve is open, the first position of the fourth valve is closed and fluid is allowed to pass between the system outlet and the waste outlet.

Claim 16:

The drug delivery device of claim 5, wherein the first ~~fluid~~ reservoir contains a drug.

Claim 17:

The drug delivery device of claim 5, wherein the first ~~fluid~~ reservoir contains a saline solution.

Claim 43:

A drug delivery device for animals comprising a housing that holds:

- a. at least a first, second and third tube connector;
- b. at least a first and second syringe inlet tube, each with a first end and a second end, wherein the second end of the first syringe inlet tube is connected to the

first tube connector and the second end of the second syringe inlet tube is connected to the second tube connector;

c. at least a first and second syringe, the first and second syringes being connected to the first and second tube connector, respectively;

d. at least a first and second syringe outlet tube, each with a first end and a second end, wherein the first end of the first syringe outlet tube is connected to the first tube connector and the second end of the first syringe outlet tube is connected to the third tube connector and wherein the first end of the second syringe outlet tube is connected to the second tube connector and the second end of the second syringe outlet tube is connected to the third tube connector;

e. at least a first and second ~~fluid~~ reservoir wherein the first ~~fluid~~ reservoir is connected to the first end of the first syringe inlet tube and the second ~~fluid~~ reservoir is connected to the first end of the second syringe inlet tube;

f. at least one catheter adapted to be placed into an animal;

g. a system outlet tube with a first end and a second end, wherein the first end of the system outlet tube is connected to the catheter and the second end of the outlet tube is connected to the third tube connector;

h. at least a first and second pinch valve, the first pinch valve having a first position through which the first syringe inlet tube passes and a second position through which the first syringe outlet tube passes and the second pinch valve having a first position through which the second syringe inlet tube passes and a second position through which the second syringe outlet tube passes, wherein in each of the first and

second pinch valves only one of the first or second positions opens while the other position remains closed, without being in communication with the fluid, in order to control fluid passing through the syringe inlet tubes, the syringe outlet tubes, the system outlet tube and the catheter; and

i. electronic circuitry that controls the opening and closing of the first and second positions of each of the first and second valves, such that the electronic circuitry operates to prime the at least one catheter, flush the system outlet tube and/or the at least one catheter and deliver fluid to the animal.

Add Claim 48:

A drug delivery device for animals, the device comprising:

- a. at least a first syringe coupled with a first tube connector and a second syringe coupled with a second tube connector;
- b. a plurality of disposable tubes, including at least a first tube, a second tube, a third tube and a fourth tube;
- c. at least one catheter adapted to be placed into an animal;
- d. at least a first and second pinch valve, each pinch valve having a first position and a second position, the first position and the second position each configured to receive one of the plurality of disposable tubes therethrough and for control of fluid flowing through the plurality of disposable tubes without being in fluid communication with the fluid;

e. a first reservoir containing a first fluid, wherein the first tube passes through the first position of the first pinch valve and is configured to allow the first fluid to flow between the first reservoir and the first syringe through the first tube connector;

f. at least one second reservoir containing a drug fluid, wherein the second tube passes through the first position of the second pinch valve and is configured to allow the drug fluid to flow between the second reservoir and the second syringe through the second tube connector; and

g. a third tube connector in fluid communication with the at least one catheter, wherein the third tube passes through the second position of the second pinch valve and is configured to allow the drug fluid to flow between the second syringe and the catheter through the third tube connector, and wherein the fourth tube passes through the second position of the first pinch valve and is configured to allow the first fluid to flow from the first syringe to the catheter through the third tube connector.

Add Claim 49:

The drug delivery device of claim 48, further comprising a controller that is operably connected to the first and second syringes and operably connected to the at least one pinch valve, wherein the controller is capable of operating the first and second syringes and the pinch valves to prime the at least one catheter, to flush the plurality of disposable tubes and/or the at least one catheter, and to deliver the first fluid or drug fluid to the animal.

Add Claim 50:

The drug delivery device of claim 6, further comprising a fourth tube connector in fluid communication with the third reservoir and the third syringe, a fifth tube connector in fluid communication with the at least one catheter and the third syringe and a third pinch valve, wherein a fifth tube passes through the first position of the third pinch valve and is configured to allow fluid to flow from the third reservoir to the third syringe through the fourth tube connector, and wherein a sixth tube passes through the second position of the third pinch valve and is configured to allow fluid to flow from the third syringe to the at least one catheter through the fifth tube connector.

Add Claim 51:

The drug delivery device of claim 50, wherein the plurality of disposable tubes further comprises a system outlet that connects the fifth tube connector to the at least one catheter.

Add Claim 52:

The drug delivery device of claim 8, further comprising a fourth pinch valve with its first position containing the catheter outlet.

Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The subject matter of the independent claims could either not be found or was not suggested in the prior art of record. The subject matter not found was the specific orientation and set up of the drug delivery device. The drug delivery device has several reservoirs, syringes, connectors, and pinch valves that were setup to allow specification fluid flow into each connector or catheter portion so that specific fluid could be

channeled to the proper area to perform the specific function of that fluid. The setup of the pinch valves allowed one tube to be open while a corresponding tube within the drug delivery device to close thus allowing even more precise fluid control.

The independent claims also include other patentable subject matter in combination with the other elements or steps of the claim not mention in the above paragraph.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MATTHEW F. DESANTO whose telephone number is (571)272-4957. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nick LUCCHESI can be reached on (571) 272-4977. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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